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**American Federation of Television and Radio Artists**

National Office

260 Madison Avenue, 7th Floor

New York, NY 10016-2402

Branch of The Associated Actors and Artistes of America

AFL-CIO

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February 14, 2003

TO: Commissioner Jonathan AdelsteinFAX NUMBER: 202 418 0232# OF PAGES (including cover): 3

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American Federation of Television and Radio Artists

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

National Office
260 Madison Avenue, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10016-2402
Branch of The Associated Actors and Artistes of America
AFL-CIO
(212) 532-0800

John P. Connolly
National President

Greg J. Hessinger
National Executive Director

February 19, 2003

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Copps:

We continue to be appreciative of your active support for, and efforts on behalf of, performers and artists working in the entertainment and media industries with regard to the FCC's Media Ownership review. We are writing to extend whatever assistance we can offer for the field hearings that you *are* planning in Seattle and North Carolina.

As you know, AFTRA, on its own and as a member of the Coalition for Program Diversity, was instrumental in coordinating the Media Ownership **Forum** held at Columbia Law School in January, and the event planned but unfortunately cancelled this week at USC.

As that recent event was under development, AFTRA was concerned about the seeming lack of voices from the community and worker side. For example, the roster of speakers that appeared on the USC website, though not complete, listed five network representatives, several professors and two workers. We think it critical – and believe we heard this **same** concern from you directly – that people who work in these industries be given an opportunity to share their direct experiences at these hearings as well.

We are also keenly aware that many of our own members must take their own careers into consideration when deciding to speak out on these issues. When we do have people willing to take such risks, we want to embrace them and provide a forum.

As you begin developing field hearings for Seattle and North Carolina, please know that we would **be** honored to provide the following:

1. Our overall assistance in providing names and logistical contact of potential witnesses, drawing from our national and local membership and executive staff;
2. Additional recommendations of outside experts;

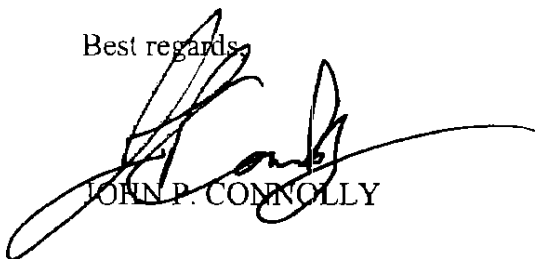
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Commissioner Copps -- 2

3. Specific issue: that have been and will be raised by management that workers and members of the public must be allowed to address; and
4. Publicity for the events to our membership **and** the general public.

Our staff will be contacting your office shortly, and we look forward to continuing this very important work with you.

Best regards,



JOHN P. CONNOLLY



GREG J. HESSINGER

CC: Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein
Dominique Bravo, AFTRA National Director, Legal & Legislative **Affairs**
Mickey Gardner, Coalition for Program Diversity
James Lurie, Chair, AFTRA Legislative & Public Affairs Committee